

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 9 are amended. Reconsideration based on the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiner Cao at the interview held June 7, 2004, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration (since the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution); (c) do not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and (d) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

**I. Information Disclosure Statement**

An Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) and Form-1449 were filed on April 25, 2001. The Examiner is requested to consider the references submitted with the April 21 IDS and return an initialed copy of the Form-1449 to the undersigned representative with the next Patent Office communication. For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the April 25, 2001 Form-1449 is attached.

**II. Pending Claims 1-16 Define Patentable Subject Matter**

The Office Action rejects claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,986,669 to Kirkland (hereinafter "Kirkland") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,239,808 to Kirk

et al. (hereinafter "Kirk"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As asserted by Applicant's representative at the June 7 personal interview, neither Kirkland nor Kirk discloses or suggests means which detect a vertex which is out of a drawable range, as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly set forth in independent claim 9.

The Office Action, at pages 2 and 5, asserts that Kirkland, at col. 5, lines 21-47 discloses this feature. Applicant respectfully disagrees with this assertion.

Kirkland is directed to a method for determining data characterizing a primitive resulting after the primitive has been subjected to clipping. (See Kirkland, at Abstract). As shown in Fig. 3 of Kirkland, clipping is performed (see steps 24-25) prior to the determination of the primitive's attributes (see steps 32-34). See also, col. 5, line 21 to col. 6, line 2.

Contrary to the Office Action's assertion, Kirkland, at col. 5, lines 21-47, merely discloses that "a check is made to determine whether the primitive may be trivially rejected." (See Kirkland, at col. 5, lines 28-29, emphasis added) However, Kirkland is silent regarding the meaning of "trivially rejected". Nowhere in its specification does Kirkland disclose or suggest means which detect a vertex which is out of a drawable range, as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly set forth in independent claim 9.

Kirk does not compensate for the above-noted deficiency of Kirkland. Kirk pertains to a method for determining texture values of graphical images. See, for example, Abstract of Kirk. As shown in Fig. 3 of Kirk, three sets of textured coordinates u and v are utilized to position triangle 13a on a texture map 20 which shows textels as dotted rectangles. See also, col. 5, lines 24-25.

Further, as asserted by Applicant's representative, and agreed to by the Examiner at the June 7 personal interview, Kirkland in combination with Kirk, fails to teach or suggest

that detecting a vertex which is out of a drawable range in a polygon is performed prior to scissoring the polygon, as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly set forth in independent claim 9. Support for this feature is found throughout the original specification, at least in Fig. 8 and associated disclosure.

In contrast, Kirkland, at least at col. 2, line 59 to col. 3, line 25, discloses that the steps of identifying, determining, and excluding a vertex are performed after the primitive has been subjected to clipping.

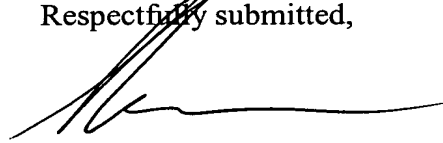
For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 9 are patentable over the applied art. Claims 2-8 and 10-16, which depend from independent claims 1 and 9 respectively, also are patentable over the applied art for at least the reasons discussed above. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

### **III. Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-16 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:GPS/hs

Attachments:

Petition for Extension of Time  
Copy of April 25, 2001 PTO Form-1449

Date: June 10, 2004

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